

Shyanne Swartwood is a 10th grader at Jefferson County Open School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shyanne Swartwood is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Shyanne Swartwood for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,734,596,578,458.59. We've added \$5,107,719,529,545.51 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

On this day in 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia proposed to the Continental Congress a resolution calling for a Declaration of Independence. We have squandered our independence by shackling ourselves with this national debt.

#### TRIBUTE TO NASHVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

#### HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to salute the Nashville International Airport, an ambassador for Music City.

On June 12, 1937, Nashville's airport officially opened as Berry Field in honor of Colonel Harry S. Berry, state administrator for the Works Progress Administration. It became a military base during World War II for the 4th Ferrying Command, and later returned to passenger service with rapid growth and high demand. In 1988, it was renamed the Nashville International Airport to reflect its new status as a hub for Tennessee air transportation.

Over the years, BNA has evolved into a state-of-the-art facility connecting the Nashville area with the rest of the world serving nearly 10 million passengers a year. As a leader in airport innovation, BNA was one of the first commercial airports to have a master plan and is now one of twelve airports in the FAA's Sustainable Master Plan Pilot Program.

BNA is not just an airport, it's an experience. It welcomes visitors with gracious south-

ern hospitality and country twang. Its unique design offers a taste of Music City with live music, shops and restaurants showcasing our Tennessee flavor. It not only provides excellent service to its customers and employees, it is an important partner in our community.

And so, Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to salute the Nashville International Airport for its 75 years of dedicated service to our citizens and our community, and for promoting higher standards in airport service. I am grateful for the contributions BNA provides not only to Nashville, but to travelers around the world.

#### SHANNIA TILLER

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Shannia Tiller for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Shannia Tiller is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Shannia Tiller is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Shannia Tiller for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

#### HONORING THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA'S LOG CABIN INDUSTRY

#### HON. REID J. RIBBLE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. RIBBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize America's log cabin industry as a quintessential symbol of the American pioneering spirit, embodying America's strength and ingenuity.

Log cabins, whether used for recreation or as primary residences, are economically sustainable, reducing waste and employing materials that put Mother Nature's beauty at center stage. The industry is experiencing renewed growth, exporting this American icon to nations from Germany to China.

Log cabin production directly supports thousands of jobs from builders to sales professionals, as well as the housing market, lending institutions, and many others. The people of this industry are hard-working, charitable, and deserving of recognition for their centuries of accomplishment.

IN HONOR OF U.S. ARMY SPECIALIST VILMAR GALARZA HERNANDEZ

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Specialist Vilmar Galarza Hernandez, U.S. Army. On May 26, 2012, this native of Salinas, California was killed in his second combat tour in Afghanistan. It is with great sadness to note that Specialist Galarza was only twenty-one years old and married just two months ago. In his all too short life, he made a lasting impact on his family, friends, comrades, and community. Specialist Galarza exemplified valor and duty, and will be remembered as an American hero.

On October 7, 1990, Vilmar Galarza Hernandez was born to Pedro and Gregoria Galarza, Mexican immigrant farmworkers. Vilmar grew up in Salinas, California, a thriving agricultural community. The famed author John Steinbeck called this community "the valley of the world," a reference to the workers who came to scratch out a living from the earth. Vilmar's parents instilled in him and his two siblings, Rubi and Marvin, the principles of the American dream: that with hard work and determination any opportunity was for their taking.

After graduating from Everett Alvarez High School, Vilmar choose the noble path of enlisting in the United States Army. In the Army, he was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. Vilmar was known by his command "as a rock that you could lean on." His company commander, Captain Brandon Wohlschlegel, said that Vilmar was "the model soldier." The Army awarded Specialist Galarza the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Army Good Conduct medals as well as campaign ribbons for service in Afghanistan.

Vilmar was destined to achieve great success for himself as he sought to make a better life for his family. He grew up in a neighborhood with few advantages, but succeeded in spite of the challenges. Vilmar was a fighter and a visionary who struggled against the odds and persevered to follow his dreams. On March 28, 2012, just two weeks before his second deployment, he realized a dream when he married his sweetheart Margarita Contreras. It is heartbreaking to know that Vilmar's dreams were not all fulfilled, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of all those who loved him.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak on behalf of the entire House in extending the Nation's deepest sympathies to Specialist Vilmar Galarza Hernandez's parents Pedro and Gregoria Galarza, his siblings Rubi and Marvin Galarza, his wife Margarita Contreras-Galarza, and his extending family, friends, and comrades. He will be missed, but we will never forget him.